

December 2024

Dear FMS Families,

As we close out the calendar year, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all of you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. December is a time of reflection, celebration, and preparation for the exciting opportunities that lie ahead. Here's a look at what's happening this month:

Celebrations and Events

Spirit Week: The weeks of December 9-December 20, will be filled with themed dress days to celebrate the upcoming holiday season. The dress up themes are as follows:

10 Days of Christmas

1. Dec.9 Candy Cane –dress in red and white
2. Dec.10 Holiday bling wear your Christmas bling
3. Dec.11 Santa vs. the Grinch Wear green or red
4. Dec. 12 PJ day
5. Dec. 13 Reindeer day: Dress as a reindeer or wear reindeer ears
6. Dec. 16 Christmas sock day
7. Dec. 17 Elf day Dress in green or as an elf
8. Dec.18 Mad for Plaid wear plaid
9. Dec. 19 Be Bright wear something shiny or with lights
10. Dec. 20 Ugly Sweater Day

Looking Ahead

Winter Break: School will be closed from December 23- January 5. Classes resume on January 6, 2025.

MLK Day: There will be no school on Monday January 20, 2025 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

A Note on Safety

As we head into winter, please remind your children to dress warmly and exercise caution during icy conditions. Our school will communicate promptly about any weather-related closures or delays.

Thank You for Your Support

Your partnership is invaluable as we strive to create a nurturing and challenging environment for all students. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me or any member of our team with questions or concerns.

Wishing you and your family a joyous holiday season and a happy New Year!

Mrs. Erin Parker
FMS Principal



Dear Fremont Middle School Families,

As we approach the winter break, I want to take a moment to emphasize the importance of keeping our students engaged in learning, even during their time away from school. One of the best ways to do this is through reading. Reading not only strengthens literacy skills but also sparks creativity, builds empathy, and provides a wonderful escape into new worlds.

Why Reading Over Break Matters

Winter break offers a perfect opportunity for students to explore books they truly enjoy without the pressure of assignments or deadlines. Even a few minutes of reading each day can help maintain the skills they've been developing throughout the semester.

Tips to Foster a Love for Reading

Let Them Choose: Encourage your child to pick books or magazines that interest them, whether it's fantasy, sports, history, or science fiction.

Make It Social: Read together as a family or discuss books you've enjoyed. Consider starting a mini family book club!

Visit the Library: Many local libraries host holiday reading challenges or offer digital books for download.

Set a Goal: Help your child set a reading goal for the break—whether it's finishing one book, trying a new genre, or reading a certain number of pages each day.

Celebrate Reading Together

We'd love to hear about what your child reads over the break! They can share their favorite book with their classmates when school resumes, or even write a short review to inspire others.

Looking Ahead

We will continue DEAR FMS throughout the remainder of the school year. Please speak with your students about this so we can encourage them from school and home to read!

Thank you for your continued partnership in supporting our students' growth. Let's inspire a love for reading that lasts far beyond the winter season.

Wishing you and your family a cozy, joyful winter break filled with great stories and meaningful moments!



Mrs. Kim Beardmore
Assistant Principal

Winter is here. One of my assigned duties is to oversee our students who are bussed in the mornings. Too often I see students waiting to enter the building at 7:10 in short sleeved shirts, shorts, and/or with no coat on. While it bothers me to see these students underdressed for the weather, the answer I get when I ask them if they have a coat is almost always “yeah but I forgot it” or “yeah but I didn’t think it was this cold.” While it seems like common sense, I would like to encourage parents to be sure your students have a coat on when they leave the house. If you work and are not home when they leave, talk to your student(s) to be sure they wear their coats.

Finally, I also am sure we have students whose families might not be able to afford a heavy winter coat and the student might be ashamed to ask, or tell us, he/she can’t afford one. If that is the case and you are reading this PLEASE call the school and let us know. We have many avenues to provide a coat for your child and we can do it discreetly. For that matter if your family is in need of food or supplies we have the means to provide those as well, and again, it can be done discreetly. We want each of our students and families to have their basic needs met. If we can help, please let us know!



Mr. Steve Anway
Assistant Principal



ACE MENTORING PROGRAM

(Assisting Children to Excel)

ACE Mentoring at Fremont Middle School is off to a positive start for the school year. Many relationships are being established along with exceptional mentoring happening.

ACE is a career based mentoring program that is designed to help students establish career goals, plan for their future, and succeed in school. Mentoring is held in person during encore classes, and students have an opportunity to talk about the social pressures and issues that they may be experiencing. Students are encouraged to succeed in school and have good attendance.

Throughout the school year, mentors and mentees have talking points they talk about during the mentoring sessions. Topics are organizational skills, skills for smart studying, career and what their future brings. Each mentoring session always encourages academic success.

We are currently serving 6th-8th grade students at Fremont Middle School and 9th-12th grade students at Ross High School. Any Fremont City School student is eligible to participate, but students are required to complete an application and parent permission is necessary.

Funding for ACE Mentoring Program is provided by the United Way of Sandusky County and Sandusky County Family & Children Council and there is no cost for students to participate.

For more information, contact:
Mrs. Susan Frye
e-mail at fryes@fremontschools.net
or office: at 419.334.5484.

BGSU



Hello from Team BGSU! It is hard to believe that we are almost halfway through the school year. Now is a great time to start a conversation at home about high school. Grades for this school year will determine what classes students are eligible to take at Ross in the fall. The end of the 2nd nine weeks is Friday, December 20th, which is also the last day of school before Winter Break begins. Grade cards will go home when we return from winter break.

We just had conferences at the beginning of November and met with many parents, but we are always open to meeting throughout the year, should you have concerns about your child's progress. You can email the team email: bgsu@fremontschools.net or call/email any of the team teachers to discuss your child's progress.

We hope you enjoy winter break and that students find the time off refreshing so we can hit the ground running when we return.



CINCINNATI



December is here, and we're entering the final stretch of 2024! This month, we're focusing on finishing strong and setting goals for the new year. Middle school is a time of growth and learning, and we're so proud of the efforts our students have made so far.

Let's make this month meaningful by supporting our students in building healthy habits, focusing on their strengths, and planning for success in the new year. Below are some tips and important updates for families as we wrap up the year.

Advice for Students: Finishing the Year Strong

1. Review and Reflect

Take some time to think about what you've learned this year. What subjects have you enjoyed? What are some skills you've gained or challenges you've overcome? This reflection can help you understand what works well for you—and what you want to keep working on.

2. Stay Organized

With assignments, activities, and upcoming tests, organization is key. Take five minutes at the start or end of each day to check your planner, tidy your backpack, and make sure you're prepared for the day ahead. A little effort now can reduce stress later.

3. Take Care of Yourself

Middle school can be busy, especially during the holidays. Make sure you're getting enough rest, eating healthy meals, and finding time to relax. Taking care of your body and mind helps you focus and learn better.

4. Set Goals for the New Year

Start thinking about what you want to achieve next semester. Do you want to try a new club, improve a certain subject, or make a new friend? Setting goals can give you something to look forward to and work toward.

5. Ask for Help if You Need It

Whether you're struggling with homework or feeling overwhelmed, remember that teachers, counselors, and your family are here to help. Don't hesitate to reach out if you need support or guidance.

Thank you for being an important part of our community. We're looking forward to seeing everyone back in January with fresh energy and new goals! Enjoy the winter break!



FINDLAY



Team Findlay is preparing for high school and beyond.

Tamara Fry, sales manager at Green Bay Packaging (GBP), joined Team Findlay 8th graders during homeroom to talk about job skills. Team Findlay has been adopted by GBP to build a relationship with a local industry and to provide another point-of-view of the skills and knowledge needed to secure employment. Ms. Fry explained what they do at GBP and the skills needed. She will be coming back to visit throughout the year and in May students will tour the GBP facility. We are thankful to have the support of GBP and Ms. Fry as we work to help students prepare for the options that life will bring them.

Students from the Ross Student Leadership group convened a panel here at FMS to talk to 8th graders about high school. They shared information to help students understand how high school works and how to succeed in high school. Eighth graders listened carefully as the high schoolers explained graduation requirements, high school teacher expectations, courses to take to prepare for college, and the benefits of being involved in extracurricular activities. In the spring we will tour Ross high school and learn even more about it.



GREEN BAY PACKAGING

SMART PARTNERS ... SMARTER SOLUTIONS



CAPITAL



As the holiday season approaches, Team Capital continues to implement a variety of fun and educational activities in the classrooms. The lessons align with the Ohio Learning Standards and have clear learning objectives. Below includes a look at what students will be completing in each class:

Mrs. Howell's **Science** class will continue to discuss global winds. After discussing global winds, we will be looking at how energy flows and how matter is transferred between organisms and their environment. Students will work on a project over this topic.

In Mr. Wolf's **History** Class students will be learning about the Silent Barter and Trans-Saharan Slave Trade across Africa! We will also complete a project over the holidays (Trans-Saharan Travel Guide) on Google Slides! Students will be working in their collaborative learning groups.

In Mrs. Abdoo's **7th grade English** class students have been working on "The Monsters are Due on Maple Street." We also worked on character analysis for the Peanuts characters. We started reading a novel, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone."

In Mrs. Abdoo's **8th grade English** class students have worked on reliable and unreliable characters. We also worked on character analysis for the Peanuts characters. The students have enjoyed doing Socratic seminars. We are working on "Flowers for Algernon."

In Mr. Sandvick's **Math** class we are wrapping up our 3rd module. Students should be bringing home their workbooks regularly and reviewing the google classroom at home daily. We have been completing notes, practice, and online practice in class. If the students did not complete the classwork, they are to finish it as homework. If a student is absent, they should review the google classroom for the notes or classwork assignment that was completed in class. They should then review that information and prepare any questions for when they return. I have also been opening OPTIONAL - (Non-graded) Extra Practice assignments for the lessons. We use the Extra Practice in class if the students finish early, but I also advertise it to the students that if they feel a little unsure about the concepts from that lesson they should work through the Extra Practice. I am happy to review any problems with them as they come up.





Math: In 7th grade Honors we have been busy writing and solving algebraic equations and graphing constant proportions. We take notes, watch videos, practice with a partner, and practice individually with these concepts. Seventh grade honors moves very quickly because we have to learn all of the 8th grade standards along with some 7th grade standards. It is very important that students complete their homework on time.

In seventh grade math we have been working on writing ratios and solving proportions. The students take notes, watch informational videos, practice together, and work on their own. I give them around twenty minutes each day to get started on their individual practice, but they need to finish it at home. It is very important that they get their homework in on time.

ELA: In both regular and honors classes, students have been focused on identifying, analyzing, and applying various literary elements through a variety of stories, writing assignments, and projects. As we close the semester, the focus will shift more on essay writing. Students will have the opportunity to tap into their creative side with narrative (story) writing, and they will work on constructing formal essay responses based on a passage, similar to what they will be asked to do on the OST in the spring.

Social Studies: We will be investigating the empires of Ghana, Mali, and Songhai and looking at the Gold and Salt trade and the Silent Barter System. Trans-Saharan Slave Trade will be compared with the Atlantic Slave Trade. We will culminate the unit with a trans-Saharan Travel Guide Project.

Science: Students are starting to learn about Earth's atmosphere in 7th grade science on Team OU. Students will study the different atmospheric layers and connect the temperature of each layer with the altitude of each layer.

Intervention: Students will be focusing on lessons related to following procedures. All of these lessons will tie into standard-specific skills in each of the four core content areas.



TOLEDO



As we head toward a brand new year, and a new semester here at FMS, we on team Toledo would like to offer a few resolutions that you can use to lead to academic success.

- 1) **Get rid of self-doubt.** When you doubt yourself and your abilities you are limiting the potential that you have to succeed.
- 2) **Every choice has consequences.** Before every action, be sure to weigh out the good or bad consequences from each choice. Taking an extra moment to examine what could/will happen will ensure that you won't be caught in unforeseen circumstances.
- 3) **Keep a planner.** Often times we tend to get behind when we don't have a good plan to go off of. In the same way keeping a good calendar/planner will ensure that you can prepare, and be prepared, for whatever comes your way.
- 4) **Stop procrastinating!** Don't put off doing that homework, project, or report until the last minute. Getting all your work done early will save you a lot of stress, time, and will most certainly be done with more quality than rushing through it at the last minute.
- 5) **Commit yourself to your work.** Set some priorities in your life. Sure it's great to socialize when you are at school, but what is that going to do for your future? Place your academics first and you will be taking that first step toward success.

NEW YEAR
FRESH
START!



HEIDELBERG



Team Heidelberg has settled into the routines of the school year and students are learning some great things. Here in the second quarter, there have been loads of engaging lessons in all four subject areas.

In Social Studies, students have started exploring early civilizations. We are underway with studying Mesopotamia. Students are discovering the advantages of living in a river valley and making connections between inventions used in Mesopotamia and ones that we still use today. We are learning about the empires and getting the opportunity to write in the form of writing that they did thousands of years ago! Next up, EGYPT!

In Science, students have started to learn about atoms and the Periodic Table. Students always enjoy this unit. We talked about the subatomic particles in an atom and how they make up everything even if we cannot see them. We even built models of atoms using Play Doh! We will end the calendar year talking about density and the three states of matter.

Currently in math we are working on ratios! We are learning how to write them, check to see if they are equivalent, and then finding different amounts based on a given ratio. Students are diving into proportions and how proportions are related to one another, many things we continue to do throughout the year build off the idea of proportions. We will be moving into speed, prices per item, and specific rates that students can find in their everyday lives. We hope to begin a project where students will find the price per item at local stores based on different ads that businesses send out!

The periods 3, 6, and 7 ELA classes are beginning their study of figurative language and poetry. They will be reading *Booked* by Kwame Alexander to explore this topic. This book is high-interest and written in verse so it is the perfect fit to delve into the world of poetry and figurative language. Period one, on the other hand, is reading *A Long Walk to Water*, a beautifully written dual voice novel that explores the issues in South Sudan through a fictional storyline and a nonfictional or true storyline of one of the lost boys. Finally, all students are working hard to reach their personal reading goals for “S’more” reading so they can earn a s’more at lunch the day before Christmas break. This quarter they are also creating a book poster to promote a book they read this quarter for S’more Reading.



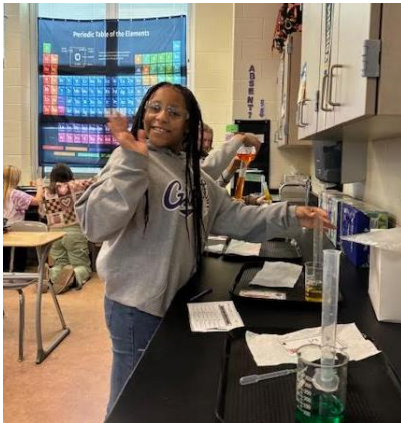
MIAMI



Science

In Ms. Bissett's Science classes, students have been learning about Matter! Matter is anything that has mass and takes up space. You have mass, you take up space, so therefore, you matter!! Students have been doing activities about matter that include learning about mass and measuring the mass of objects. They've also learned about volume and have measured the volume of regular and irregular shapes. Lastly, students have been combining our knowledge of matter, mass and volume to measure density!

Pictured from L to R: Amya Pettis, Sophia Groot, Lia Baatz, Marcus Cooks, Zayvier Stewart



Social Studies

November has been a very busy month in Mr. Pursell's Social Studies classes. Starting at the beginning of the month, students were learning about different governments and our election process in the United States. Next, students discussed and watched a video about Veteran's Day to honor all that are currently or have served. Currently, they are working on timelines.



MIAMI (cont.)



Language Arts

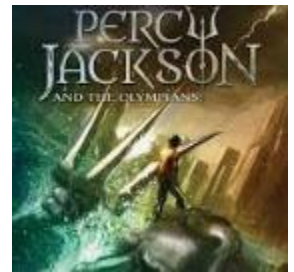
In Mrs. Dye's and Ms. Coleman's Language arts classes, they have been working and just finished up a unit on short stories. Presently each group is reading novels. Both novels are period pieces: one is about a Jewish family trying to escape the Nazis during World War II. The other is about Sudan's second civil war. Both novels are incredible reads.

Students are working on their personal reading logs as well.

The whole sixth grade is participating in "One grade, One Book" and reading Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief during homeroom.

We are very busy readers!!

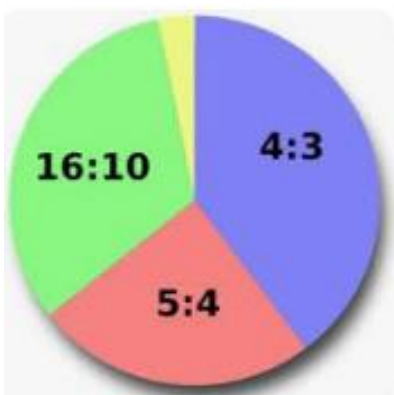
We will begin a writing unit after the holidays.



Math

In Ms. Coleman's and Mr. Plaunt's 6th grade Math classes, students have been focused on learning about several different math properties. They have been learning about rates and ratios, unit rates and proportions. Rates and ratios are used in everyday life to compare quantities and understand relationships between different values. Some examples would be following a recipe, figuring out how long it will take to get somewhere while driving a certain speed per hour.

Pictured below, working on ratios, is Pierce Perkins.



TIFFIN



The 2024-2025 school year is going great for Team Tiffin!. The students are working hard in their classes and transitioning well into the Middle School.

In Language Arts class, students are reading an exciting novel *Booked* by Kwame Alexander while the Gifted class is reading *Freak the Mighty* by Rodman Philbrick. They are exploring all the text features to enhance their comprehension and analytical skills.

Our Science class is diving into an exciting unit revolving around matter with an emphasis on physical/chemical properties to develop critical thinking skills.

Mrs. Rohrbacher's math students are working with proportional relationships preparing for a lesson on mean, median, mode and range.

Finally, Students in Social Studies just completed an immersive unit on the ancient cultures of the Near East including the world's first writing system, Hammurabi's "eye for eye" law code and the ferocious Assyrians!

We are thrilled to announce that Olive Wright has been recognized as the December Student of the Month. Congratulations to Olive (as well as Leo Kinsey and Luciana Gomez-Osario) for their outstanding efforts and achievements!

A fine group of Tiffin students have won the weekly VIP Student-of-the-Week award (given each week to a Team Tiffin student in recognition for their excellent behavior and academic efforts). The winning students are: Olive Wright, Charles Stratton, Tristan Leasure, Izabelle Griffin, and Rachel Wasserman . **Great job students!**

In addition, Annabelle Belcher won the "Responsibility" Character Trait Award which recognizes a student who made a Giant leap in maturity and decision-making. Congratulations Annabelle, your teachers are very proud of you.



FUNDRAISER INFO



Fremont Middle School completed the fall Stoller Fundraiser. It has always been a very successful money maker and all profits go to the teams that earned them to use for classroom and team rewards. We will use them again next fall.

Go to <https://teamlocker.squadlocker.com>



Go to Stores and Orders, then “Find Your Store” and type in “Fremont Middle School” to bring up the clothing you can purchase. A percentage of all sales comes back to the school to help fund school activities. This is available all year.



World’s Finest Chocolate will once again be our fundraiser for the Spring! It has been a consistent money maker for FMS. We thank you for your continued support of FMS.

NOTE: Many of our clubs may also be running their own small fundraisers to earn money for club activities.

IMPORTANT DATES

December 20	End of 2 nd 9 weeks
December 23- January 3	Winter Break (no school)
January 6	School Resumes
January 20	MLK Day (no school)
February 14	Parent Conferences (no school)
February 17	President’s Day (no school)



FINAL FORMS

Please remember to update Final Forms on their website whenever there is a change to you or your child's information. This includes address, phone number, contacts, custody, transportation or medical. Please change this info for all of your children in the school system. If you have yet to complete Final Forms for this school year, please do so as soon as possible. We use Final Forms for communications such as daily announcements, newsletters and building-wide letters.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

Please call the school attendance desk at **419-332-5569** (press option 1) any time you know your student will not be in attendance for the day. A voicemail can be left for the office 24/7 and will be received at 7:00 a.m. Monday through Friday. Please remember to include: **your name, your student's name, reason for absence**, and a **phone number** to contact you if we have any questions. Please remember to speak slowly and clearly so we can record the information accurately.

Students may also bring a note from a parent/guardian to the office before classes begin to obtain a building pass. The note should contain the date, student name, parent name with signature, reason for leaving school, and time student needs to be released. With advance notice, we are able to have your child waiting for you in the school office when you arrive to sign them out.

The school day begins at **7:30 a.m. sharp!** Students should be **seated in their homeroom before 7:30 a.m.** to avoid being counted tardy.

EVERY
SCHOOL DAY
COUNTS

